

Striking Stage Gowns From Which Hints May Be Taken.



Gold Cloth Princess Gown With Persian Trimming and Danglers.

Light Blue Crepe de Chine with Russian Drawn Work.

White Silk Mull Bonnet With Baby Blue Feathers and Ribbon.

Silver Lace Over Turquoise Blue Silk.

Irish Lace Over Cream Silk.

White Lace Negligee Over White Satin Underwear.

Violet Crepe de Chine, With White Lace and Insertion.

FASHIONS FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE.---By May Manton.

Lent, with its rest from social strain and its consequent leisure, has come. For six weeks to come comparative quiet will be the rule; gayeties will be limited and the mother of the family will find herself with time to give to home sewing, with ample opportunity to look over and renew the children's wardrobes. From time immemorial Lenten quiet has meant that task well done. From generation to generation has descended the habit of careful consideration and of provision for family needs. Not even modern methods and modern clubs have caused it to die out. To-day, as much as in our grandmother's time, the children's needs are carefully considered and supplied, and seamstresses and dressmakers are kept busy making small frocks and pretty girlish dresses during the weeks of seclusion that precede the great spring feast.

Girls from twelve to sixteen follow somewhat closely in the wake of their mamma. That is to say, their fashions are modelled upon and influenced by those of their elders. But, while this is true, they must not be replicas and must mean a certain simplicity if they are to be correct and smart. In this one thing, if no other, wisdom and fashion go hand in hand. It is not fashionable for girls to be elaborately dressed. La Mode says time enough for that when the school days are past. Wisdom unquestionably urges that the girl shall remain one both in fact and seeming as long as it is possible to do so and puts off the wearing of woman's styles as long as it can be deferred. Youth at best is fleeting. It is wise to prolong it to the uttermost limit. Therefore, as I have already stated, there is peace between the powers, in this one realm at least, and good style and good sense are closely allied. Jacket suits of quiet color in light weight, wools are much worn and are undoubtedly serviceable. For the spring the blouse model with a plain flared or plaited skirt will take precedence of all others.

Blues, tans, browns and the new sage greens are all in vogue. Gray is rather old in effect and not so desirable for young girls. Lightweight serges, chevrons and homespuns, flecked with white, are exceedingly fashionable for knock-about suits and for school. For occasions of greater dress, velvets are much used, and very charming suits it makes; but many mothers prefer separate coats for the younger girls, reserving cloth costumes for those past fifteen. Jackets of covert cloth always are in style and suit women of all ages past four

years. Also loose coats are much worn both in full and three-quarter length. With any one of these the frock may be of any lightweight material, and is rather more girlish than the suit with its implied shirt-waist. These last are shown in all ages from ten to full growth, but I do not think they are general under fourteen. When younger girls wear jacket suits, rather more fancy waists are used as the severe style seems over mature. Trimmings for the chevrons and cloths may be any of the pretty fancy braids or bands of plain cloth on mixed, while the suits of broadcloth are, many of them, touched with bits of lace or embroidery, but this is only in the case of the older sisters who are fast approaching womanhood.

Indoor frocks are charming. For early spring wear velvets, cashmeres and the like are being made by the score. Tucks make a favorite finish and are seen in all widths. Charming dresses for the girls from twelve to sixteen are made with yoke of simple lace and full sleeves, showing lace cuffs. With these tucked, plain and flounced skirts all are worn. The girls of fourteen and sixteen are allowed foulards in simple designs and Indian silks, but the soft wool velvets, veillings and the like are so charming they seem little need for the use of silk even in these simple sorts. For school wear blouse dresses are in demand and are exceedingly serviceable as well as stylish made of serge or mohair. Younger girls wear tucked dresses, plaited and Gibson dresses more or less modified from the original style. A recent innovation, and one that is to be welcomed, is the combination of the "Gibson" waist with the plaited skirt. For immediate wear these are charming in plaid, but later will be much worn in plique, which is to be a favorite of the summer. Simplified blouse frocks, too, are seen and many dresses of such white wools as serge and mohair, but these, of course, are for afternoon wear. As pretty a frock for a girl of ten as the fondest mother could ask is of white serge and is made with the new yoke skirt and is joined to a yoke of about three inches in depth that consists of alternate bands of the material and lace stitches. The blouse is box plaited at the back, is cut out at yoke depth and is open at the front, where it forms tiny revers. Yoke and full front are of simple box plaited and the sleeves are plaited above the elbow of cashmere in Nile green and is tucked both as to bows, and form puffs below. A charming entire frock skirt and waist, the latter being finished with a yoke of cream lace and is used in profusion, as also is embroidery, but lace of no other sort is so well liked on these thin dresses. The yoke skirts, to which I have already re-

ferred, are much liked with plaited skirts, inasmuch as they reduce the bulk about the waist, and are seen in these thin fabrics as well as in the heavier ones. A most exquisite little frock of white mull is entirely box plaited, the skirt in wider, the waist in narrower plaits, and shows one of these yokes composed of alternate strips of lace insertion and tiny bands embroidered in French knots. The waist shows a deep pointed bertha and can be worn with a guimpe or without, leaving the pretty childish neck and arms bare. Finest French embroidery also is in vogue, and one sees lovely little dresses made from flouncing. As dainty an example as any I recall is designed for a tot of five years of age, and has a double skirt of this flouncing that is at once charming and simply made. The body is in the long-waisted style, and is made from the fine muslin with bertha and sleeve frills of the needlework.

More useful frocks are tucked and plaited, but are made of sturdier stuff. For the spring term cashmere, serge and similar wools always are in demand. As pretty a model as need be desired for girls from eight to fourteen has a box plaited skirt with a simple bloused waist that is plaited to yoke depth only at the most effectively in cashmere with bands of wide fancy front, full length at the back. I have seen it made up braid applied over the plaits. A second model, for girls of about the same age, is cut with a square neck, finished with a becoming bertha and filled with tucked silk. Below the bertha the waist is tucked in groups, and the skirt is tucked to give a yoke effect. Fancy braids are much used as trimming and are pretty as well as simple. Similar designs are shown in linen and in pique. In madras and chambray for summer wear, and are trimmed with embroidery, with cotton braid or with bands of contrasting color fancy stitched. Bands of white on color, and of color harmonizing with the design on figured goods, are to be much used the summer through, and make effective trimming with the machine stitched, but the daintier frocks show touches minimum of cost. For the every-day dresses they are of hand work. Dimity with a tiny Dresden design of pink rose-buds is charming with bands of pink feather-stitch, and similar combinations might be quoted by the score.

Coats for these younger girls are of serge in blue, red and white, as well as in covert cloth. Two favorite styles are the Norfolk and the three-quarter half-loose coat. These of white are exceedingly attractive over the white dresses and will be much seen during the summer months, but the darker colors are more practical for spring. Black coats of silk with lace collars retain their hold for occasions of dress, but those of

pongee, tucked, are somewhat newer and these wool coats suit all times and occasions. Wee, wee girls are allowed greater splendor than are their elder sisters, and some lovely little coats of sheenest white muslin, profusely trimmed with lace and hung over silk, are soon for the mites of three and four years of age, but simplicity is the rule from that age to womanhood.

Boys' fashions undergo no radical changes, but the Russian suits in white and pale colored brillantine are for the normal occasions of life, and those of wool and cotton are familiar, but these of mohair fill an intermediate place and are really delightful. Just what wee boys did before Russian suits were introduced, it seems difficult to imagine, so perfectly do they fit their needs. This year they are offered in greater variety than ever before, and are even more attractive if such could be the case.

MAY MANTON.

Spring Dress Fabrics.

Heavy and rough fabrics are among the early spring dress goods that have already been placed upon the counters. These will later be made into walking and traveling suits. Scotch goods of all kinds will also be much worn. Bourrette effects are to be seen in different much worn. These will, later on, be transformed into street dresses. Mohairs are likely to be in great demand for the late spring weeks, and they are now offered to the feminine world in great variety.

For indoor wear, for other evenings or afternoon, crepe de chine still holds its own, and its popularity will continue on into the summer. Nun's veiling in all colors and shades will be made into evening dresses, and albatross is another revival that bids for great popularity.

Checks, plaids and stripes are about equally divided in the early showing, and there is likely to be a sharp contest for supremacy. Black and white effects still hold the attention of the designers, and so the plaids, checks and stripes are mainly in these colors.

How to Wash White Silk.

White silk should be washed in tepid water with white soap. It should be rinsed at once in tepid borax water. It should be dipped in lukewarm water to which has been added a suspension of liquid bluing. It should be shaken until almost dry, not wrung and ironed damp.

Peeps at the Summer Styles From the Depths of Winter.

RECENT SPRINGLIKE days allotted to us by the "Weather Man" made the "Summer Girl" begin to wonder what she would be able to find in the line of cool, fluffy mid-summer gowns.

Indeed she will have little trouble in deciding this, for the thin wash silk and lace gowns are more beautiful than ever this season. They are not only beautiful but practical.

A gown that particularly struck the writer's fancy was of white wash china silk. The skirt was cut circular, with just a suspicion of a train. Just below the hips is a cluster of four narrow tucks running around the skirt, then three rows of dainty narrow insertion directly under this. This idea is carried out also at the bottom of the skirt just above the plain hem.

The waist is made almost entirely of the insertion, with a combination of tucks to match the skirt. It is very much on the order of the regular shirt-waist, but the pretty full sleeves, with the rows of narrow insertion let in from shoulder to elbow, and the lacey effect of the waist itself, make it much more dressy.

A more elaborate gown is made of this same material. The skirt is trimmed with tucks and insertion, with a pretty flare at the bottom. The waist has a yoke of the tucks and insertion which is shaped into a broad collar effect, falling over the shoulders and edged with a narrow Valenciennes lace. The sleeves fit quite tightly to the elbow and gradually form a flange that of pale blue wash silk and of the insertion.

These gowns may be worn over mull, or silk slips. They can be dry-cleaned to look like new, and can be washed (if done properly) with the same effect.

These designs are also effected in the pale shades of pink and blue, but the colored silks are trimmed with a heavier lace insertion. A very pretty combination is that of pale blue wash silk and cluny insertion.



White Wash China Silk With Insertion and Valenciennes Lace.

White Wash Silk With Insertion and Tucks.

Pale Blue Wash Silk With Russian Lace Insertion.

Pongee Gown Trimmed With Tucks and Raglan Braid.

Grass Linen Gown with Wide Insertion and Raglan Sleeve.

insertion. It is finished at the bottom with a flounce of the silk with a heading of insertion and four rows of shirring, as the shoulder seams show sufficient

fullness into the bust. A vest effect is shown by a number of narrow tucks running from neckband to waist-

line, with bands of insertion on each side. It is belted in with a plain blue silk sash to match.

Then for more practical wear is shown a pongee gown. The skirt is quite plain, with the exception of seven or eight

tiny tucks at the bottom and just above these a row of fagoting braid. The waist has a box plait down the front, with six narrow tucks on each side, with two rows of fagoting braid set in. A plain full sleeve, collar and cuffs of the fagoting. The back has the box plait with narrow tucks on either side, but no braid. This makes a very neat traveling gown, as well as one suitable for morning wear.

Another extremely effective gown is of silk grass linen, which is very sheer and can be worn over delicate colors, such as green, pink or blue. The skirt is made plain, but fitted to the knees, and graduates into a flounce effect. There are two rows of wide Russian lace insertion running down around the skirt, one just below the hips and one about twelve inches from the bottom of the skirt.

The waist has a narrow box plait of the Russian lace down the front, with two bands of wide insertion running from the underarm seam to the box plait, on each side. A single band of this insertion is arranged across the back, giving it a pointed yoke effect. The sleeve is quite odd and very much resembles a raglan sleeve, a band of the wide insertion running from the cuff straight up into the neck band, completely covering the shoulder seam and armhole.

All the waists and gowns will be leaded down with lace. Indeed, the trimming will amount to as much as, if not more than, the material.

The coarse Russian laces seem to be in favor. They come in the cream ecru and a deeper ecru that is almost yellow. Russian drawn work is also very much used. It comes in wide stripes that can be set in a skirt, with the material cut out underneath.

The plain white shirt waist will be even more popular than it was last season. Colored shirt-waists will be worn but little, possibly for traveling when it is hard to keep a white waist clean.

Duck skirts are shown in very pretty styles, but in long and walking lengths. The coarser the prettier this year. These gowns were sketched from designs imported by Louis Stracher, of Philadelphia. Models will be found in all the leading New York houses.